(f) if so, the details thereof indicating earnings from visitors, from Indian organisations and from foreign organisations ;

(g) whether organisation of this fair has helped the Industrial activity and export performance of the country ; and

(h) if so, details thereof and if not, reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The theme of the 14th India International Fair (IITF) held during 24th to 27th November, 1994 related to sustainable development. Among the highlights of display were Techmart—Small and Medium Industry Technology; Build-Tech—Building Technology; Knit India—Knitwear; Watches & Clocks and Toys. Almost all States and Union Territories and some Central Government Ministries and Departments and leading Public Sector Undertakings were among the participants. A major feature of the Fair related to 'Good Living' which displayed a wide range of consumer products and the participants included leading firms dealing with products such as consumer electronic, electrical and home appliances, textile furniture and furnishings, jewellery, cosmetics and so on. In the international sector as many as 130 organisations took part from 19 countries namely Afghanistan, Argentina, China, Japan, Russia, South Africa, U.K., Canada, Singapore, Germany and Italy, etc.

(c) and (d) The norms for participation include the stature of the exhibitor, capacity of manufacturing quality products and marketing experience. The charges for bare space is Rs. 1250/- per sq. mtrs. and US $ 125 for Indian and foreign exhibitors respectively.

(e) and (f) The gross earnings in the form of space rent received from Indian organisations and foreign organisations participating in this fair was Rs. 6.34 crores and the gate money earned at the fair was approx. 81.71 lakhs.

(g) and (h) Yes, Sir. Quite a number of exhibitors/participants have reported substantial business by way of export orders, import deals, joint ventures proposals, domestic sales and sales across the counter.

Drawback on Import of Machinery

745. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the British Trade Minister, Richard Needham leading a British Trade Delegation to India recently, had said that inspite of the reforms, there were some barriers like high tariff regarding import of machinery or spare parts which made them expensive, besides red tape which leads to avoidable delays;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) what remedial action Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) As per press reports, the British Trade Minister referred to the continuing concern on the part of British industry about the relatively high tariffs in India and procedural delays.

(c) Government has already embarked upon the process of economic reforms which inter-alia include the reduction of import tariffs and simplification of relevant rules/procedures.